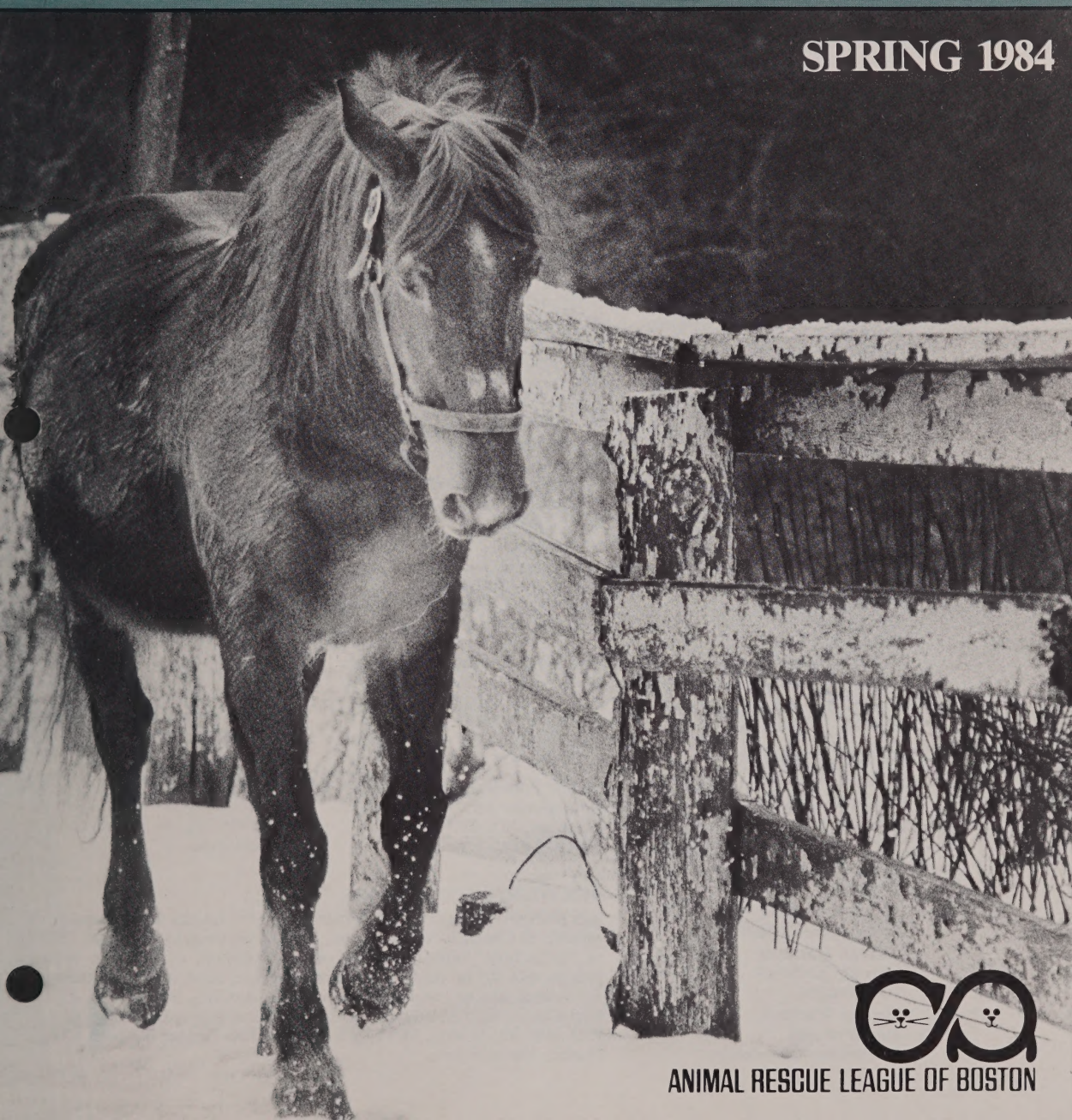
our fourfooted friends

SPRING 1984



ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE OF BOSTON

ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE OF BOSTON

Publisher of
OUR FOURFOOTED FRIENDS
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Richard W. Bryant, Associate Editor
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SPRING 1984
Volume 81, Number 1

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American Humane Association
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World Society for the Protection of Animals
Boston, MA (Regional Office)

COVER PHOTO: "Rusty," who is thirty years old and has lived at Belliveau Riding Academy since he was six, is still so playful he has to be exercised before anyone rides him (see story on page 4). *Photo by Bob Howard*

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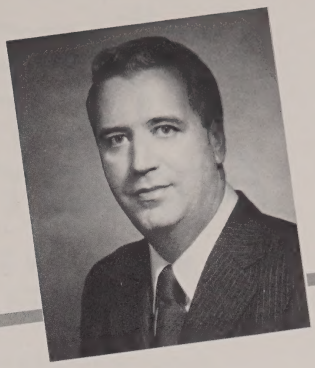
A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT...



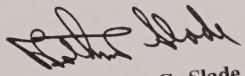
WORLD CONGRESS FOR ANIMALS

A very special and unique event will take place in Boston this Spring. The World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA) will host for the first time an international gathering of leading professionals in the field of animal protection.

The World Congress will bring together representatives from nations throughout the world to discuss the critical issues affecting animals in their countries for the purpose of sharing knowledge and unifying efforts for developing meaningful action programs. There will be simultaneous translation into four languages of the Congress proceedings.

This is indeed a wonderful and rare opportunity for people to gain a worldwide view of our field of work and we should all be proud and pleased that Boston has been chosen for such an historic event. Our Directors and staff extend their greetings and best wishes to WSPA for a successful conference.

The World Congress on Animal Protection will be held at the Park Plaza Hotel in Boston from May 27 to June 1, 1984. For further details, contact Congress Coordinator, World Society for the Protection of Animals, 29 Perkins St., P.O. Box 190, Boston, Massachusetts 02130.



Arthur G. Slade
President

Belliveau Riding Academy

A HAVEN FOR THE HOMELESS

Located on Randolph Avenue in Milton, adjacent to miles of wooded trails on the Blue Hills Reservation, is the Belliveau Riding Academy. As one would suspect from its name, there are some 50 head of horses and ponies at Belliveau, but there are also a number of other unexpected guests at these well-known stables which were founded 50 years ago by Francis Belliveau.

In fact, if it clucks, quacks, moos, barks, neighs or brays — chances are you'll find it here, for "Bush" Belliveau, as he is known to friends and colleagues, just can't say no to an animal that needs a home.

His love for animals, which dates back to school days, made his choice of career an early and logical decision. "On my way to school in West Quincy, I used to pass a riding stable every day. It wasn't long before I began dropping by every afternoon after school to help sweep up and care for the horses," Bush recalls. At the age of 22, he opened his own riding stables, where he also conducted horse auctions in the early years, often taking in horses that had been undernourished or abused and nursing them back to health.

His relationship with the Animal Rescue League of Boston has been a long and mutually happy association, which began initially through regular visits to his stable by League inspection and investigation agents to check on the conditions of the animals. "This is going back some twenty-five or thirty years," he notes, "and in all this time there's never been a complaint about the condition of our animals."

In fact, the animal population at Belliveau was so obviously healthy and content that it wasn't long before the League began turning to Bush to take in additional guests. When a Billy goat was found running through the corridors of the J.F.K. Building in downtown Boston, agent Walter Robinson found a home for it at Bush's stables. Today, "Sam", as the goat was named, shares a stable with two other goats named "Curly" and "Raymond".

Wildlife that Bush has taken in from the League include some twenty Muscovey ducks, a white dove named "Pretty Bird" that has the run of his house, a guinea hen so tame she spends hours each

Francis Belliveau relaxes with one of his many four-footed friends, just a few of which appear in other photos.

day perched on Bush's foot, several chickens and hens, a goose, a fat, brown rabbit with floppy ears and temperament that resemble a spaniel puppy, and an abused chicken that the League found with most of its feathers plucked out. The League has also released a pheasant on his property after its broken leg had mended, but the bird has not strayed far. He is frequently spotted coming out of the woods at the back of the stable, and hanging around for a visit.

If all this is not enough, Bush also finds time to care for three German shepherds, one mixed-breed puppy, a 40-year old donkey named "Jennifer" and a Shetland pony named "Blackie".

In addition to offering riding lessons and renting horses, Belliveau Riding Academy also boards about 40 horses. Each horse goes through about 30 pounds of hay per day, and between eight and ten quarts of grain, depending on whether it's a "working horse" or a boarder.

Caring for all of these animals with the help of one assistant and "some kids who come by on the weekend," much as he used to do, is no small job. But when it comes to animal welfare, time, effort and expenses are not an issue. At Bush's stable, there is always room for one more.

SHELTER EXPANDS

MAKING ROOM FOR MORE

In relatively short periods of time, city skylines change drastically, new fashions outdate old, political figures rise and fall, but one thing remains constant — each year there are more homeless animals on the streets than there were the year before. Last year's unwanted litters of puppies and kittens each reproduce, and a new cycle of neglect and abandonment is underway.

In response to this harsh reality, the League for some time has been planning a major expansion and renovation of its adoption facilities at the Boston headquarters, a project that got underway this past winter and is now nearing completion.

When the doors of the new facility open this Spring, the adoption kennels will be able to provide temporary shelter for approximately twice the number of animals accommodated previously. Quality of care and comfort were key considerations in the new design which will include a number of new pens for larger animals, a separate section for cats and kittens, and an exotic animal room. The shelter and lost and found offices are also being enlarged to handle expanded activities.

In addition to structural renovations and improved appearances with bright colors and new flooring throughout, the refurbishing plans also include new lighting and safety features to enhance care and comfort.

Throughout the renovations, business has gone on as usual with adoption placements continuing at a brisk pace. Though the entire shelter area has been under construction, animals awaiting adoption have been on display for visitors in the League's auditorium which has been converted to a temporary adoption center.

This is the first major renovation of the Boston adoption shelter since 1956, the year in which League headquarters at the corner of Arlington and Tremont Streets was built. Members and friends of the League are invited to visit the renovated adoption shelter this Spring. The shelter is open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturdays.

Animals awaiting adoption were temporarily housed in the auditorium, while contractors prepare their spacious new quarters.

1983 ANNUAL REPORT

The year 1983 was a very gratifying one for the League, in terms of services performed, goals achieved and new aims set for the future. The outstanding characteristic of the year, however, was a growing sense of renewal through vigorous involvement on the part of the League's many thousands of members and friends.

(Continued on next page)

ANOTHER PET ADOPTED

ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE OF BOSTON

Annual Report *(Continued)*

During the past twelve months, membership grew to 18,562, with the addition of 3,500 new members in 1983. These concerned allies in the League's efforts on behalf of humane treatment of animals, including friends both old and new, have contributed not only heartwarming support, but, more important, active participation in achieving long-sought goals.

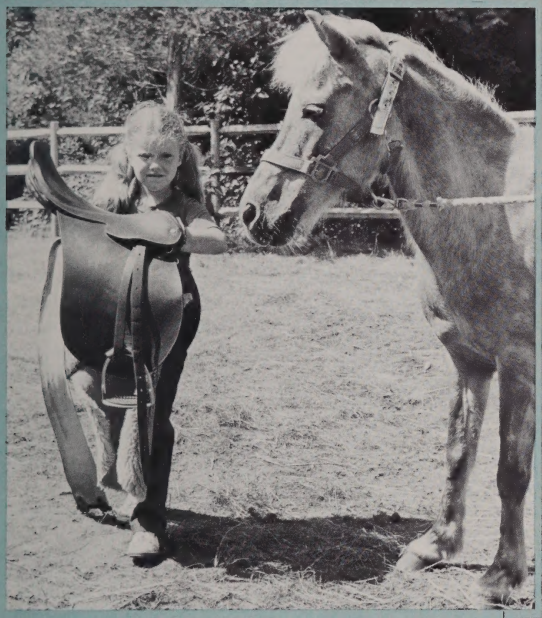
Perhaps nowhere was this spirit of involvement more evident than in the two-year effort to repeal the Pound Seizure Law which concluded successfully in December, 1983, with passage of state legislation that eliminates for good the possibility that lost pets may be impounded for use in medical research. Literally thousands of people wrote in support of the League's Legislative Bulletins, an overwhelming response that ultimately helped draw support from members of the State House and Senate. Special credit must also be given to the thousands of people who worked so hard to make the initiative petition drive an outstanding success. The League was active on many other legislative issues which are reviewed in the article on page 10.

Adoption activity rose this year, particularly at the League's Salem and Brewster shelters. Animals placed in new homes included 2,058 dogs, 2,055 cats, and 305 miscellaneous animals, for a grand total of 4,418 newly adopted pets. There was also an increase of over 18% in the number of lost animals returned to their owners — 1,111 dogs and 324 cats, totaling 1,435 compared to last year's 1,212.

Outpatient visits to the League's small animal clinic in Boston rose by 12% to 8,540, and a new director of veterinary medicine, Keith Hopkins, D.V.M., was appointed in April. The health and welfare of farm animals, livestock and other large animals was also fostered and monitored by the League's inspection and investigation agents who conduct regular inspections of pet shops, auctions, fairs, riding stables, and other places where literally thousands of animals are housed for commercial purposes. If animal abuse is detected on these inspections, or reported by phone or letter, League agents are empowered as humane law enforcement officers to investigate and prosecute. The League's first aim is to correct an abusive situation but, if this cannot be done, the agent's goal is to remove the animal from a dangerous situation by legal means.

Community outreach and public education activities were expanded both at the Sheldon Branch in Salem and the Cape Cod Branch in Brewster. From Salem, shelter manager Mary Brasier reports an increase in shelter tours for Brownies and other youth groups and in pet therapy programs for area nursing homes. Volunteers from the Lynn Friendship Club also come in regularly to help in the care and exercise of the animals. On the Cape, where Thom White was appointed shelter manager last April, a regular schedule of dog obedience classes was begun in the fall, in cooperation with local animal control efforts. The year also saw an increase in the number of cases dealing with wildlife and new activities in wildlife behavior education.

At the very heart of the League's aims and philosophy is its humane education program, which offers the



most lasting route to a new social climate that could bring an end to the animal welfare problems created by ignorance and cruelty. In order to generate humane and caring attitudes among young people, the League employs a variety of approaches. These include the Animal Friends Summer School in Cataumet, the annual Pet Show where prizes are awarded on the basis of the care and concern which a child exhibits for a pet, and humane education programs throughout the year at public and private schools.

This year, the League was also privileged to sponsor local presentation of a multi-dimensional exhibit titled "Kids and Pets", held last June at the Boston Children's Museum. Produced by the American Humane Association, this traveling exhibit was designed to foster better understanding of animal life and proper pet care.

Other humane education activities included the Animal Friends Club and newsletter for school children, as well as publication of *Our Fourfooted Friends*, pet care articles for print and broadcast media, seminars and public speaking appearances, all directed at one goal: creating a climate of sensitivity and concern in which the bonds between people and animals can strengthen and flourish.

1983 LEGISLATION

THE YEAR IN REVIEW

by Stephen Wachman

The 1983 Massachusetts Legislative session was a very successful year for animal welfare issues. More bills than ever before were signed into law by Governor Dukakis in this 1983 session.

By far the most important issue we at the Animal Rescue League of Boston worked for this year was the repeal of the Massachusetts Pound Seizure Law. We now have eliminated the possibility that any pet might be used for research in the Commonwealth as of October 1984.

The legislation further ensures humane methods of euthanasia, established a three-year phase-in prohibition against the use of imported pets for research, prohibits the sale of dogs and cats by dog officers and pounds, and allows the Massachusetts Department of Public Health to designate authorized humane agents, including League personnel, to inspect licensed animal research facilities to assure their compliance with these new regulations.

The passage of this legislation marked a successful effort by humane organizations, the biomedical community, and the legislature, who have been 'discussing' the issue for more than 25 years.

It may have seemed that the predominant issue this year was Pound Seizure repeal, yet many other important pieces of animal legislation also became law.

Among those was an act relative to the rights of deaf people and the use of dogs to assist such persons. This law provides deaf people with the same anti-discrimination protections which are already in place for blind persons.

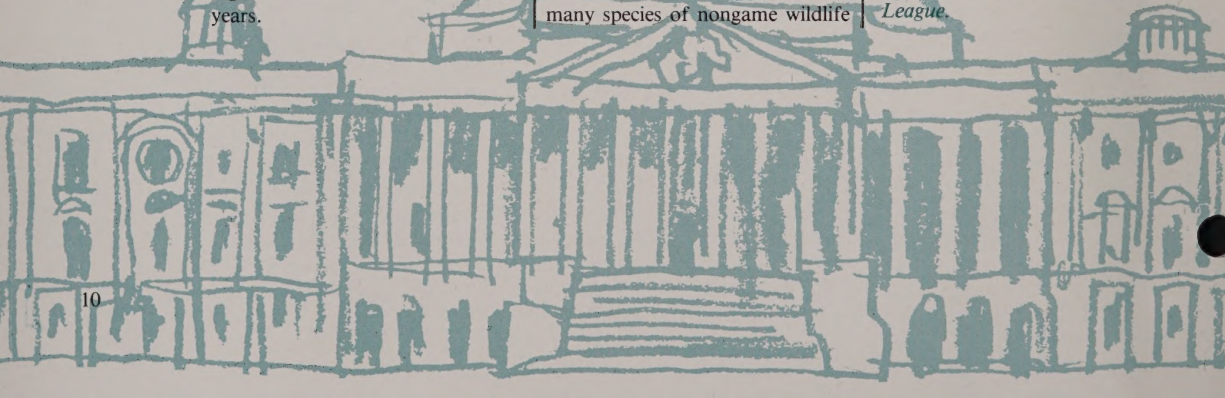
In 1983, fifteen "home-rule" bills were enacted relating to the removal of those 15 cities and town from their county system of dog license and penalty fees. These moneys are now to be retained by the individual city or town treasury and are not to be paid over to their respective county.

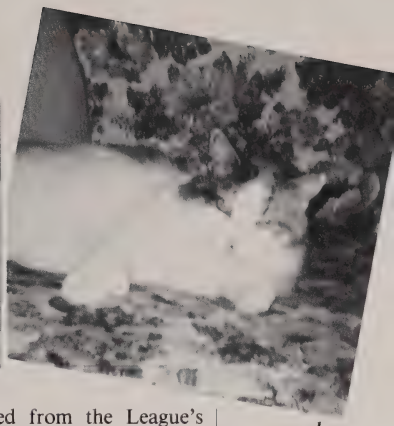
Other important legislation established funding for the nongame wildlife program in the Commonwealth through a voluntary contribution on the Massachusetts tax form or to the state's Division of Fisheries and Wildlife. These funds will help preserve and protect many species of nongame wildlife and rare wild plants through research and land protection.

Still other acts were passed relating to dog officers and the fees they charge for the care of dogs in their possession. The fee was increased from $2 to $3 per day. In addition, a dog officer's duties were further regulated by providing for a system of records to be kept by those officers. These records are to be maintained for each dog and cat in the dog officer's custody.

Of the many thousands of pieces of legislation submitted annually to the Massachusetts legislature, only a few hundred ever become law. This year more than 25 animal-related bills were enacted making the 1983 legislative session a truly successful one for the animal welfare community.

Mr. Wachman is coordinator of information and education at the League.





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1 "Pudgie," who was adopted from the League's shelter in Salem, will be 15 years old in July. "Needless to say, she is now the most important thing in my life," writes owner J.L. Kehoe of South Dennis.

2 "Charlie," shown here with owner Mary Cochrone, was adopted from the League last June and now lives on a farm in Kennebunk, Maine. "Charlie is a dear little dog, affectionate, intelligent and now very lively — in fact, he is quite a good watch dog. Everyone who meets him loves him," Mrs. Cochrone writes.

3 Nadene, Herb and Robin Molan of Weston share this photo of "Tabatha" and friends. "As you can see, she enjoys snuggling up for a mid-day nap with her stuffed animals. Tabatha was adopted from the League in 1977 and she and George Washington share the same birthday!"

PETS IN THE PICTURE

4 Ann and Bill Janney of Hyannis adopted "Sam" at the age of three months from the League's Brewster shelter. "This is Sam now at 15 months, with my husband. Bless you for the work you do," Mrs. Jenney writes.

5 "Portia" and "Guisseppi" Cornell strike a pensive pose at their Brookline home. This photo of the two League alumnae was featured on a holiday greeting card sent in by their proud owner, Mrs. Robert Cornell.

6 Joan Stewart of Jamaice Plain sent along this photo of her neice's cat, "Andy, sneaking his leftovers." Owned by Zelda Harris, "Andy" obviously enjoys a good meal, placemat and all.

7 Susan Hamilton of Danvers sends along this photo of her dog, "Toby," who was adopted from the League when she was just six weeks old. "Sadly, Toby had to be put to sleep a few months ago," Mrs. Hamilton writes. "I miss her terribly...but I take comfort in knowing of the good work you do, and the happy times Toby gave us while she was here.

The apartment door closes. It is 7:20 in the morning and the little dog is alone. It trots into the bedroom and jumps up on the bed, still warm and heavy with its owner's scent, squirms into a comfortable position and closes its eyes. It will be over ten hours until the apartment door opens again. How is this dog going to spend the day?

The Lonely Dog: Victimizer or Victim?

Before speculating on the answer to that question, let's go into some history and information about inherent characteristics of the dog. It is believed that the dog, as a domestic animal, dates back at least 10,000 years. It would seem likely that some canine association with humans occurred even before that, probably related to hunting.

By nature and by nurture, the dog is social and has traditionally been accustomed to an active life in the service of humans. How does this compare with the concept of the dog as a pet, particularly within the context of the modern urban environment?

Isolation and Disruptive Behavior

In answering this question, let's return to the question posed earlier, how is our hypothetical dog going to spend the day alone in the apartment? Perhaps dozing, interspersed with pacing from room to room. Perhaps shifting from bed to couch to chair, lying and staring into space. While some dogs seem to accept the isolation imposed on them by the owner's absence, unfortunately, many others do not. Their owners are plagued by disruptive behaviors exhibited by their dogs when left alone.

According to W.E. Campbell, the most frequently occurring undesirable behavior in dogs is housesoiling, followed by destructive chewing. It is difficult to estimate the extent to which these two behaviors alone have caused owners to shudder in apprehension as they are about to open their door in the evening.

For the owner of a dog that shows disruptive behavior when left alone, the crucial question is, "What can I do about it?" To start with, we will assume that the dog is not being deliberately malicious. Next, physiological disorders which might lead to loss of bladder or sphincter control, or hyperactivity, should be ruled out by a visit to a veterinarian. Once a physical basis for behavior has been ruled out, it is likely that the source of the problem then lies in the relationship between the dog and its environment and/or the relationship between the dog and owner. It is not al all unusual to find a "problem owner" behind the problem dog.

Dealing with Disruptive Behavior

Frequently problems occur in the owner-dog relationship when the dog is not properly integrated into the social unit in terms of clear-cut dominance-subordinance roles. A primary characteristic of the canine pack is that one individual emerges as the leader. The same situation should exist in the relationship between dog and owner, with the owner assuming the leadership role. The best way to achieve and maintain this role is to actively work with the dog 10-15 minutes a day on simple obedience exercises. (These can be acquired through formal obedience training or by using one of a number of excellent books on obedience training.)

Another area to be examined when disruptive behavior occurs relates to attention and exercise. Too much or too little attention can contribute to behavior problems when the dog is left alone. As a guilt reaction, an owner who leaves the dog alone may lavish affection on the dog at other times, allowing the dog to dictate the terms of the relationship. Conversely, because of time pressures and annoyance at misbehavior, the owner may only give the dog a minimum amount of attention.

It is best to establish a set schedule, which can be maintained both during the week and on weekends, for providing attention and exercise. Obedience sessions meet part of this requirement. Fifteen minute exercise periods, before leaving and immediately upon returning home are recommended. This gives the dog an opportunity to expend some energy before being left alone, and something for it to look forward to in the evening. Specific play periods may be also scheduled, or combined with the exercise routine. Such schedules reduce the dog's tension level because it comes to expect these activities to occur on a regular basis. It is also advisable to adhere to a fairly rigid feeding schedule. In general, the more predictable the dog's life is, the more secure it is going to be.

Pet Needs: Owner Responsibilities

Supplementary to the above suggestions, some specific techniques may be used to reduce stress and tension in the dog while it is left alone. A nylon bone, saturated with your scent, may help the chewer. Some people believe that leaving on a radio or TV reduces the boredom associated with being alone. A second pet, especially another dog, can raise the level of stimulation.

For those of you who may be contemplating acquiring a dog which will be left alone on a regular basis, we ask that you consider two things:

1. What are your motives in obtaining a dog?
2. Are you willing to put in the time and effort required to meet the dog's needs?

In itself, leaving your dog alone may not constitute inhumane treatment of the animal. It does, however, border on the inhumane when the owner is not willing to minimize the stress experienced by the dog, and share responsibility for the dog's misbehavior.

This article was condensed from the pamphlet "The Lonely Dog", published by The American Humane Association. A free copy of the full brochure is available by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to the Animal Rescue League of Boston, P.O. Box 265, Boston, Mass. 02117.

newsfront

ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE OF BOSTON

STATE RIGHTS FOR PETS

Governor Michael S. Dukakis is congratulated by Arthur G. Slade, League president, upon signing into law the Deaf Rights Bill at Red Acre Farm's Hearing Dog Training Center in Stow, Massachusetts. This new law guarantees the rights of deaf people to use these specially trained dogs in all public facilities.

Mr. Slade also expressed appreciation to Governor Dukakis for recently signing the Pound Seizure Repeal Law, which will end the twenty-five year use of unclaimed lost Massachusetts pets for medical research, effective in October, 1984. Starting in December, 1986, it will also prohibit the use of imported lost pets from other states for experimental purposes. League members were intensely involved in negotiations and support of efforts to pass this law.

DATES SET FOR ANIMAL FRIENDS SUMMER SCHOOL

The Animal Friends Summer School, held each year by the League at Cataumet on Cape Cod, will open its 1984 season on July 2. In two sessions, one three-week and one four-week, youngsters from six (starting first grade in the fall) to 15 will have the opportunity to learn about animal life first hand and enjoy a full range of animal and nature related studies and activities. The schedule is as follows:

SESSION I:
July 2-20, Monday-Friday (3 weeks)
Family morning: Saturday, July 21 (Rain date: July 22)

SESSION II:
July 23-August 17, Monday-Friday (4 weeks)
Family morning: Saturday, August 11 (Rain date: August 12)

PET SHOW:
Saturday, July 28
(Rain date: July 29)

Registration fee is $51 for Session I (three weeks) and $60 for Session II (four weeks). For information, write: Richard W. Bryant, Animal Rescue League of Boston, P.O. Box 265, Boston, MA 02117.

LEAGUE PUP STARTS NEW CAREER

Paramedic Jennifer Smith holds ten-week old "Ember," the newest member of the Eastham Fire Department, who was adopted from the Animal Rescue League. Though fond of riding in the fire engine, "Ember" is spending her nights at Firefighter Glenn Olson's house until she is old enough to mind the fire station.

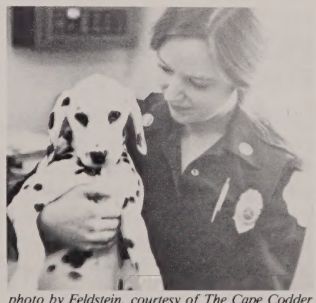


photo by Feldstein, courtesy of The Cape Codder

(Continued from previous page)

HERON WINGS OFF AFTER CAPE VACATION

A blue heron, discovered by the League with its feet frozen to the surface of a pond in Belmont this winter, was driven to Cape Cod for a week of "rest and recuperation" before being released. After League agents broke up the ice and took the freed bird to the Boston shelter, it was determined that the bird had suffered no serious damage, other than cold feet. Because of severe cold in the Boston area, however, the bird was driven to the League's Cape shelter in Brewster where, after waiting for the weather to warm up a bit, shelter manager Thom White released it at a marshy cove in Chatham.

DOGS ORDERED DESTROYED IN CHINA

In a movement that drew protest from the West, China's State Council this winter ordered dogs destroyed in and around the Peking area. Described as an effort to "prevent rabies and maintain social order," the order for Chinese people to destroy their pets was accompanied by fines set at $25, more than a month's wage, for those who keep illegal pets. At the same time, other reports indicate that citizens in some of China's provinces are being strongly urged to bring cats into their households as a means of controlling a dangerously growing rat population.

PETS IN HOUSING FOR THE ELDERLY

Federal legislation was recently passed to allow elderly people to keep pets in federally-subsidized housing. Prior to the passage of this law, residents were not allowed to keep pets other than caged birds and fish. Similar restrictions ban pets in state-subsidized housing for the elderly, but State Representative Thomas Vallely (D-Back Bay) and State Senator George Bachrach (D-Cambridge) have filed a bill that would lift these restrictions for the elderly living in the Commonwealth. Opponents of the bill focus on the inability of some elderly to care for pets, particularly dogs that need to be walked. Supporters argue that the well-documented emotional and physical benefits of pet ownership for the elderly, and the distress caused by having to give up a life-long companion, far outweigh these concerns.

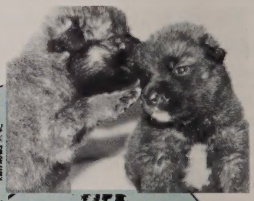
LEAGUE INTRODUCES NEW AMBULANCE FLEET

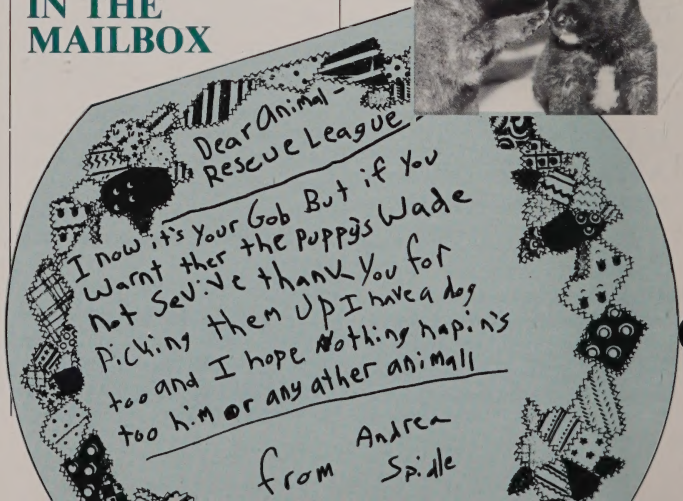
The League's emergency and rescue service program had its capabilities boosted this winter with the addition of three new customized GMC ambulance vans, each equipped with three cages in the rear, and a full partition between the animal holding area and the driver. This provides agents with a total of four vehicles in top working order, plus a boat, in preparation for Spring's annual increase in the number of animals on the streets exposed to the danger of accidents and injury.

NEWBORN PUPS ABANDONED

Six five-day old puppies, abandoned in a snow bank in West Harwich this winter, were bottle-fed and cared for at the League's Cape Cod shelter. Only two survived the ordeal and were adopted. The temperature was about 20 degrees when the pups were found, according to shelter manager Thom White. Abandoning an animal is a misdemeanor in this state, punishable by a $500 fine, a year in jail, or both.

IN THE MAILBOX

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Our Fourfooted Friends	0 0 3 0 6 8 5 1	Sept. 26, 1983
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5. COMPLETE MAILING ADDRESS OF THE HEADQUARTERS OR GENERAL BUSINESS OFFICES OF THE PUBLISHERS *(Not printers)*
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6. FULL NAMES AND COMPLETE MAILING ADDRESS OF PUBLISHER, EDITOR, AND MANAGING EDITOR *(This item MUST NOT be blank)*

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Animal Rescue League of Boston, 10 Chandler Street, Boston, Mass. 02116

EDITOR *(Name and Complete Mailing Address)*
Arthur G. Slade, 10 Chandler Street, Boston, Mass. 02116

MANAGING EDITOR *(Name and Complete Mailing Address)*
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7. OWNER *(If owned by a corporation, its name and address must be stated and also immediately thereunder the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, its name and address, as well as that of each individual must be given. If the publication is published by a nonprofit organization, its name and address must be stated.) (Item must be completed)*

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2. RETURN FROM NEWS AGENTS	None	None
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PS Form 3526 July 1981 *(See instruction on reverse)* (Page 1)

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The President and Board of Directors
Cordially invite you to attend our

ANNUAL MEETING

Thursday
April 26, 1984 2:30 p.m.
League Headquarters
Corner of Arlington & Tremont Streets
Boston, Massachusetts

Program:
Annual Meeting

●

Election of Directors

●

Guest Speaker
Richard W. Bryant
Executive Assistant, Animal Rescue League of Boston

Presentation on New Shelter and Tour

ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE OF BOSTON

Our Foorfooted Friends (US ISSN 0030-6851)
Animal Rescue League of Boston
P.O. Box 265, Boston, Massachusetts 02117